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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 10/635,955
Filing Date: August 07, 2003
Appellant(s): DELUCA ET AL.

George Likourezos
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 06/07/2010 appealing from the Office action mailed 01/06/2010.

(1) Real Party in Interest

The examiner has no comment on the statement, or lack of statement, identifying by name the real party in interest in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The following is a list of claims that are rejected and pending in the application:

Claims 1-11, 13-14, 17-2628-30, 32 are rejected and pending.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The examiner has no comment on the appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The examiner has no comment on the summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The examiner has no comment on the appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal. Every ground of rejection set forth in the Office action from which the appeal is taken (as modified by any advisory actions) is being maintained by the examiner except for the grounds of rejection (if any) listed under the subheading "WITHDRAWN REJECTIONS." New grounds of rejection (if any) are provided under the subheading "NEW GROUNDS OF REJECTION."

(7) Claims Appendix

The examiner has no comment on the copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the appellant's brief.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

6,873,841	Sagar	3-2005
US 20020156895	Brown	10-2002
US 20040203579	Comp	10-2004

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

The following is a repetition of the rejection found in Final Office Action mailed on 01/06/2010.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-9 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sagar, US 6873841 in view of Brown, US 20020156895 A1.

Regarding claim 1, Sagar discloses a cellular telephone (i.e., a PDA 102 comprising a modem which uses CDPD that is supported by cellular service providers or mobile phone 104)

(see fig. 1) comprising a memory storing a telephone directory (i.e., database 108 of the PDA or second database, i.e., memory 124, of the mobile phone) (see fig. 1, col. 1, line 62- col. 2, line 4); a processor having access to the telephone directory stored in the memory (as known in the art, a processor is an integral part of a mobile phone or PDA with access to the memory of the device); and a set of instructions capable of being executed by the processor for establishing a communication link with a remote central station storing a plurality of telephone directories (i.e., connection to a predetermined Internet site of server 106) (see fig. 1, col. 5, lines 2-6).

As can be seen above, Sagar discloses that both the PDA and the mobile phone can be connected to server 106. The PDA connects to server 106 to upload copy of database file 108 into storage server (see col. 5, lines 6-10). And, the mobile phone connects to the server to download from the server, e.g., via the Internet, manipulated copy of database file 108 for storage in a second database, i.e., memory, of the mobile phone) (see col. 1, line 66-col. 2, line 2).

Sagar does disclose a device (i.e., mobile phone and PDA) comprising receiving the telephone directory and storing the received telephone directory in the memory of the cellular phone (see col. 1, line 66-col. 2, line 2), and wherein the user is validated, using an identifier or password (i.e., transmission of a unique identification code to the remote central station) (see col. 5, lines 50-52).

Sagar, however, does not specifically disclose a cellular phone wherein the remote central station storing a plurality of telephone directories each assigned a unique identification code and assigned to the transmitted unique identification code to the received telephone directory, wherein said telephone directory including a listing created and transmitted to the remote central station using a computing device not corresponding to a subscriber of the cellular telephone.

However, Brown discloses a method and system for sharing contact information. The method and system comprising storing a user's contact information in a database accessible over a network, receiving identification of a person that the user wishes to authorize for access the user's contact information, enabling the person to access the user's contact information, and transmitting the user's contact information to a computing device of the authorized person from the database via the network in response to a request for this information (see abstract, paragraphs 8-9, 33-36, and 42-43).

In paragraph 44, Brown discloses that once having determined which members would like to participate, the administrator can create the virtual directory. The administrator can provide all the identities of the participating members and their associated contact information to another entity, For instance the entity that maintains the one or more network servers. These identities can simply comprise an identifier such as the member's email address or another identifier that is globally unique. The administrator can then configure the virtual directory such that only members of the group and potentially Only participating members, can access the directory.

What we have here is a directory wherein participating members store personal information that may be accessed by other members. It is well known in the art and would have been considered obvious by one of ordinary skill in the art to immediately appreciate that when one would request to access the directory of a member, the request has be associated with a specific contact information for the correct information to be provided to the requester. Furthermore, one skill in the art would also appreciate that each member's contact information or directory is uniquely identified according to the member's name, telephone number, or other type of identification. It is a fact, as evidenced in paragraphs 33-36, for a user to access the

directory, the user would enter some sort of identification to access the directory. Therefore, one skilled in the art would find it obvious that specific directory associated with different members are identified by different and unique identifier.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings as described by Sagar with the teachings described by Brown to arrive at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to properly and securely share the telephone directory with authorized users.

Regarding claim 2, Sagar discloses a cellular telephone as described above (see claim 1 rejection).

Although Sagar discloses a telephone as described, Sagar does not specifically disclose a telephone wherein the remote central station identifies the telephone directory stored within the memory of the remote central station using the transmitted unique identification.

However, Brown discloses a method, system, and cellular telephone wherein once the application is initiated, the user is prompted for some form of user identification (e.g., through a log in process) to convey the user's authorization, as indicated in block 600. Entry of such information facilitates access to the contacts information of the persons identified in the user's virtual address book. Once the identification is provided, it is received by the contacts information module 214, 314, as indicated in block 602, and the module determines whether the identification is correct, as indicated in decision element 604. If the identification is correct (i.e., the user is authenticated), flow continues to block 606 at which the contacts information module 214, 314 receives the user's request to view the virtual address book, as indicated in block 606. More particularly, the module 214, 314 can receive a request to view a particular folder of the address book (see fig. 6, paragraphs 39-40).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings as described by Sagar with the teachings described by Brown to arrive at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to properly and securely share the telephone directory with authorized users.

Regarding claim 3, Sagar discloses a cellular telephone (see claim 1 direction) wherein the received directory was created by and transferred to the remote central station using a computing device other than the cellular telephone (i.e., the PDA created and transferred the telephone directory to the server and the mobile phone requests and receives the telephone directory from the server) (see fig. 1, col. 1, line 62- col. 2, line 4).

Regarding claim 4, Sagar a cellular telephone (see claim 1 rejection) further comprising a display and a keypad for selecting at least a portion of the displayed telephone directory desired to be transmitted from the remote central station to the cellular telephone, wherein the received telephone directory only includes the selected portion of the displayed telephone directory (i.e., to allow the user of the database to select which columns need to be transferred to mobile phone 104, the following is recommended. Subsequent to the transfer of database 108 to server 106, application 122 checks to see if this database has been uploaded in the past. For a database that has not been uploaded before, the user is provided with a list of each field (shown on a display of PDA 102), by label and prompted to indicate which fields need to be transferred. A separate checkbox, one for each database field, is presented on-screen and the user checks appropriate boxes to indicate the fields that need to be transferred to mobile phone 104. On submission of the information by the user to server application 122, the latter stores the user's selection in a

way that allows it to be recalled for the specific database 108, when database 108 is uploaded to server 106 again, some time later) (see col. 6, lines 32-50).

Regarding claim 5, Sagar discloses a telephone (see claim 1 rejection) wherein the step of storing the received directory includes overwriting at least a portion of the telephone directory stored within the memory of the cellular telephone with the received telephone directory (i.e., updating information in memory 124) (see col. 6, lines 51-54).

Regarding claim 6, Sager in combination with Brown discloses a cellular telephone (see claim 2 rejection) wherein the step of transmitting the unique identification code to the remote central station occurs on a periodic basis (i.e., whenever a request for information is received) (see Brown's paragraphs 39-40).

Regarding claim 7, the combination of Sager and Brown discloses a telephone wherein the processor executes the set of instructions for instructing the remote central station to broadcast the telephone directory to a plurality of cellular telephones (i.e., means for receiving an identification of persons that a user authorizes to access the user's contact information, and means for transmitting the user's contact information to a computing device) (see Brown's paragraph 9).

Regarding claim 8, Sagar discloses a telephone as described above (see claim 1 rejection) wherein the processor executes the set of instructions for receiving a message transmitted from the remote central station indicating that the telephone directory is available for transmission from the remote central station to the cellular telephone for storage within the memory of the cellular telephone (see col. 4, lines 20-26); and comprising transmitting a signal to the remote

central station, said signal including at least an identification code identifying the telephone directory available for transmission (see col. 5, lines 43-52).

Regarding claim 9, Sagar discloses a telephone (see claim 1 rejection) wherein the processor executes the set of instructions for instructing the remote central station to transmit the telephone directory to a computing device via at least one network (i.e., telephone directory request would instruct the server to transfer the telephone directory to the computing device) (see col. 2, lines 29-31).

Regarding claim 32, the combination of Sagar and Brown discloses a telephone (see claim 1 rejection), wherein the cellular telephone belongs to a subset of cellular telephones and said processor further transmits a signal to said remote central station identifying the cellular telephone as belonging to said subset prior to said remote central station transferring the telephone directory to the cellular telephone (i.e., Brown discloses a database that stores contacts information that is to be accessed by many different authorized users (see paragraph 29, 33-36).

Further, once the identification is provided, it is received by the contacts information module 214, 314, as indicated in block 602, and the module determines whether the identification is correct, as indicated in decision element 604. If the identification is incorrect, for instance if the user enters the wrong username and/or password by mistake, flow returns to block 600 at which the user is again prompted for the user identification. If, however, the identification is correct (i.e., the user is authenticated), flow continues to block 606 at which the contacts information module 214, 314 receives the user's request to view the virtual address book, as indicated in block 606. More particularly, the module 214, 314 can receive a request to view a particular folder of the address book. The address book folders can be different, yet potentially overlapping, collections of contacts example folders) (see paragraphs 40-41).

Also, once having determined which members would like to participate, the administrator can create the virtual directory, as indicated in block 702. Optionally, the administrator can provide all the identities of the participating members and their associated contact information to another entity, for instance the entity that maintains the one or more network servers 112. As before, these identities can simply comprise an identifier such as the member's email address or another identifier that is globally unique. The administrator, or other entity, can then configure the virtual directory such that only members of the group and, potentially only participating members, can access the directory (see Brown's paragraphs 42-46).

Thus, members of the group can access other members' directories. And as stated above, to access the directory, the requesters have to provide identification information.

4. Claims 10-11, 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sagar and Brown, further in view of Comp.

Regarding claim 10, Sagar discloses a cellular telephone wherein the processor executes the set of instructions for transferring the telephone directory stored in the memory of the cellular telephone to the remote central station and instructing the remote central station to store the transferred telephone directory within a memory (see col. 5, lines 6-10, 43-52).

However, the combination does not specifically disclose a telephone wherein the data that is transferred to the remote central station is stored for a particular time period.

However, Comp discloses a cellular telephone wherein updated directory information is transferred to a remote database periodically (paragraph 32).

Thus, one skilled in the art would find it obvious that information stored on the remote is stored for a particular time interval until new updated information is received.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings as described by Comp with the teachings described by the combination to arrive at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide or share up-to-date information to other authorized users.

Regarding claim 11, Sager discloses a cellular telephone (see claim 10 rejection) wherein the processor executes the set of instructions for automatically instructing the remote central station to transmit the stored telephone directory or a portion thereof to the cellular telephone after lapse of the particular time period (i.e., periodically transmits the telephone directory) (see col. 1, lines 39-42).

Regarding claim 13, the combination of Sagar and Brown discloses a cellular telephone as described (see claim 1 rejection).

The combination, however, does not specifically disclose a telephone wherein the processor executes the set of instructions for transmitting information corresponding to the subscriber to the remote central station during a registration process, wherein the registration process includes registering the subscriber with the remote central station.

Comp discloses a cellular telephone wherein the processor executes the set of instructions for transmitting information corresponding to the subscriber to the remote central station during a registration process (in a cellular communication system, a vendor will usually program a new cellular telephone for a purchaser to, among other things, associate an identification number of the telephone with a telephone number assigned to the user. This process will typically require communication with a remote network server) (see Comp: paragraph 25), wherein the registration process includes the step of registering the subscriber with the remote central station (see Comp: fig. 3, page 4, paragraph 25).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings as described by Comp with the teachings described by the combination to arrive at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide or share up-to-date information to other authorized users.

Regarding claim 14, the combination of Sagar and Brown discloses a telephone as described above (see claim 1 rejection).

The combination, however, does not specifically disclose a telephone wherein the processor executes the set of instructions for performing the steps of: identifying a calling party's telephone number and an entity the telephone number is assigned to, i.e., Caller ID information; and transmitting the Caller ID information to the remote central station for creating a telephone directory listing using the caller ID information and storing the telephone directory listing within the memory of the remote central station.

However, Comp discloses a telephone wherein the processor executes the set of instructions for performing the steps of: identifying a calling party's telephone number and an entity the telephone number is assigned to, i.e., Caller ID information (i.e., the call log database may include call-related information for a predetermined number of previous calls that were placed from and/or received through the user device. The call log database will typically include the phone numbers of the other parties involved in the corresponding calls. Party names and/or other information (e.g., length of call, etc.) may also be stored. The controller may control the maintenance of the call log database or a separate control unit can be provided) (see Comp: paragraph 12); and transmitting the Caller ID information to the remote central station for creating a telephone directory listing using the caller ID information and storing the telephone

directory listing within the memory of the remote central station (see Comp: fig. 2, abstract, and page 2, paragraph 12).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings as described by Comp with the teachings described by the combination to arrive at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide or share up-to-date information to other authorized users.

5. Claim 17-20, 22-23, 26, 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Comp in view of Brown.

Regarding claims 17 and 23, Comp discloses a method and telephone directory management system (see abstract) comprising: a remote central station having a memory for storing a plurality of telephone directories each assigned an individual identification code and at least one processor (paragraph 11) having access to the plurality of telephone directories stored in the memory (i.e., the call log manager maintains a call log for individual users at a network storage location (see paragraph 19). And, each user is associated with an identification code (paragraph 25)); a plurality of cellular telephones each corresponding to a different subscriber and each storing a telephone directory (i.e., referring to fig. 3 where it is illustrated a plurality of cell phone users. And, Comp discloses that the call log maintained for each user by the call log manager include the same or similar information to that stored within a corresponding user device within the system (paragraph 19). Thus, each user device stores a telephone directory) and having a processor (inherent) for executing a set of instructions for establishing a communication link with the remote central station (i.e., placing a call to the server) (see paragraph 22);

transferring at least a portion of the telephone directory stored to the remote central station (i.e., transfers of contact information to the server) (see paragraph 22).

Comp further discloses that the call log manager 52 is operative for maintaining a call log for individual users (paragraph 19). Comp also discloses in paragraphs 25-26 that user initiated transfers of information from the network to a user device may also or alternatively be supported. For example, a user may deliver an appropriate request to the call manager to transfer the user's information to the new user device. This may also require a specific authorization or identification code) (also refer to paragraphs 9 and 16).

Comp, however, does not specifically disclose system and method comprising identifying at least a portion of a telephone directory of the plurality of telephone directories stored by the remote central station and corresponding to at least one of the plurality of cellular telephones and transferring at least the identified portion of the telephone directory to at least two of the plurality of cellular telephones, wherein the identified portion of the telephone directory includes at least one telephone directory listing created and transmitted to the remote central station using a computer device not corresponding to a subscriber of at least one of the at least two of the plurality of cellular telephones, and wherein the at least two of the plurality of cellular telephones belong to a subset of cellular telephones and said at least two of the plurality of cellular telephones each transmit a signal to said remote central station identifying themselves as belonging to said subset prior to said remote central station transferring the at least the identified portion of the telephone directory to the at least two of the plurality of cellular telephones.

However, Brown discloses a system and method comprising identifying at least a portion of a telephone directory of the plurality of telephone directories stored by the remote central station and corresponding to at least one of the plurality of cellular telephones and transferring at

least the identified portion of the telephone directory to at least two of the plurality of cellular telephones (i.e., in response to requests, user's contact information are transmitted to computer devices of the authorized users) (see paragraphs 9, 39-40), wherein the identified portion of the telephone directory includes at least one telephone directory listing created and transmitted to the remote central station using a computer device not corresponding to a subscriber of at least one of the at least two of the plurality of cellular telephones (i.e., Brown discloses a method and system for sharing contact information. The method and system comprising storing a user's contact information in a database accessible over a network, receiving identification of a person that the user wishes to authorize for access the user's contact information, enabling the person to access the user's contact information, and transmitting the user's contact information to a computing device of the authorized person from the database via the network in response to a request for this information (see abstract, paragraphs 8-9, 33-36, and 42-43).

Further, once the identification is provided, it is received by the contacts information module 214, 314, as indicated in block 602, and the module determines whether the identification is correct, as indicated in decision element 604. If the identification is incorrect, for instance if the user enters the wrong username and/or password by mistake, flow returns to block 600 at which the user is again prompted for the user identification. If, however, the identification is correct (i.e., the user is authenticated), flow continues to block 606 at which the contacts information module 214, 314 receives the user's request to view the virtual address book, as indicated in block 606. More particularly, the module 214, 314 can receive a request to view a particular folder of the address book. The address book folders can be different, yet potentially overlapping, collections of contacts example folders (see paragraphs 40-41).

Also, once having determined which members would like to participate, the administrator can create the virtual directory, as indicated in block 702. Optionally, the administrator can provide all the identities of the participating members and their associated contact information to another entity, for instance the entity that maintains the one or more network servers 112. As before, these identities can simply comprise an identifier such as the member's email address or another identifier that is globally unique. The administrator, or other entity, can then configure the virtual directory such that only members of the group and, potentially only participating members, can access the directory (see paragraphs 42-46).

Thus, members of the group can access other members' directories. And as stated above, to access the directory, the requesters have to provide identification information.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings as described by Comp with the teachings described by Brown to arrive at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to properly and securely share the telephone directory with authorized users.

Regarding claim 18, Comp discloses a system (see claim 17 rejection) wherein the establishing and transferring steps are performed on a periodic basis (i.e., making transfer at periodic intervals) (see paragraph 14). Thus, one skilled in the art would find it obvious that connection to the server has to be done on a periodic basis since the transfer is done at periodic intervals.

Regarding claim 19, Comp discloses a system (see claim 17 rejection) wherein identifying and transferring steps are performed on a periodic basis (see paragraph 13 and claim 18 reasoning).

Regarding claim 20, the combination of Comp and Brown discloses a telephone wherein the processor executes the set of instructions for instructing the remote central station to broadcast the telephone directory to a plurality of cellular telephones (i.e., means for receiving an identification of persons that a user authorizes to access the user's contact information, and means for transmitting the user's contact information to a computing device) (see Brown's paragraph 9).

Regarding claim 22, Comp discloses a system (see claim 17 rejection) wherein the processor executes the set of instructions for performing the steps of: identifying a calling party's telephone number and an entity the telephone number is assigned to, i.e., Caller ID information (i.e., the call log database may include call-related information for a predetermined number of previous calls that were placed from and/or received through the user device. The call log database will typically include the phone numbers of the other parties involved in the corresponding calls. Party names and/or other information (e.g., length of call, etc.) may also be stored. The controller may control the maintenance of the call log database or a separate control unit can be provided) (see Comp: paragraph 12); and transmitting the Caller ID information to the remote central station for creating a telephone directory listing using the caller ID information and storing the telephone directory listing within the memory of the remote central station (see Comp: fig. 2, abstract, and paragraphs 12 and 14).

Regarding claim 26, Comp discloses a method (see claim 23 rejection) further comprising the steps of: receiving Caller ID information, i.e., a calling party's telephone number and an entity the telephone number is assigned to; processing the received Caller ID information to create at least one telephone directory listing (i.e., the call log database may include call-related information for a predetermined number of previous calls that were placed from and/or

received through the user device. The call log database will typically include the phone numbers of the other parties involved in the corresponding calls. Party names and/or other information (e.g., length of call, etc.) may also be stored. The controller may control the maintenance of the call log database or a separate control unit can be provided) (see paragraphs 12 and 14); and storing the at least one telephone directory listing within the remote central station, wherein the at least one identified telephone directory includes the at least one telephone directory listing (paragraphs 12, 14, 19-20).

Regarding claim 28, Comp discloses a method (see claim 31 rejection), wherein the telephone directory listing includes information selected from the group consisting of name (see paragraph 13), home telephone number, mobile telephone number (Comp discloses that the address may typically include telephone numbers (it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to envision that telephone numbers may include home and mobile number) (see paragraph 13), home address, business address, e-mail address, and web-site address (it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art that home address, business address, e-mail address, and web-site address may be included as other contact information) (see paragraph 13).

Regarding claim 29, Comp discloses a method (see claim 23 rejection) further comprising the step of charging a fee to at least one subscriber of the plurality of cellular telephones (i.e., the call log manager only maintains call logs for users who subscribe to a call log service (e.g., for a small monthly fee)) (see page 3, paragraph 20).

Regarding claim 30, Comp discloses a method as described above (see claim 23 rejection).

Although Comp discloses a method wherein the user can request the transfer of contact information wherein the requested or selected contact information is sent, thereby obviously

displayed on the device (see Comp: paragraph 26), Comp does not specifically disclose a method wherein prior to the transferring step, displaying the at least one identified telephone directory via a display of at least one of the plurality of cellular telephones; and selecting at least a portion of the displayed telephone directory desired to be transmitted from the remote central station to the at least one the plurality of cellular telephones.

However, Brown discloses a method wherein prior to the transferring step, displaying the at least one identified telephone directory via a display of at least one of the plurality of cellular telephones; and selecting at least a portion of the displayed telephone directory desired to be transmitted from the remote central station to the at least one the plurality of cellular telephones (see figs. 6-7, and paragraphs 39-45).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings as described to arrive at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide authorized users access to contact information stored at a remote location without the need to manually update or enter contact data.

6. Claims 21, 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Comp and Brown, further in view of Sagar.

Regarding claim 21, 24, and 25, the combination of Comp and Brown discloses a system as described above (see claim 17 rejection).

Although Brown discloses a system comprising transmitting a signal to the remote central station, said signal including at least an identification code identifying the telephone directory available for transmission (see abstract), the combination of Comp and Brown does not specifically disclose a system comprising receiving a message transmitted from the remote central station indicating that the telephone directory is available for transmission from the

remote central station to the cellular telephone for storage within the memory of the cellular telephone.

However, Sagar discloses a system comprising receiving a message transmitted from the remote central station indicating that the telephone directory is available for transmission from the remote central station to the cellular telephone for storage within the memory of the cellular telephone (see col. 4, lines 20-26). Thus, in combination with Comp and Wakabayashi, one skilled in the art would unhesitatingly conceptualize that the remote central station would send an indication to the users that are authorized to share the telephone directory of its availability.

Also, it worth noted that Sagar discloses a method wherein a user send a request for telephone directory information to the remote server (i.e., the mobile phone requests and receives the telephone directory from the server) (see fig. 1, col. 1, line 62- col. 2, line 4)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings as described by Sagar with the teachings described by Comp and Brown to arrive at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to properly inform the user of directory information.

(10) Response to Argument

Appellants argue that there is no disclosure or suggestion by Brown of assigning a telephone directory listing with a unique identification code, let alone, "transmitting a unique identification code to the remote central station; receiving a telephone directory listing stored in a memory of the remote central station and assigned the transmitted unique identification code, said telephone directory including at least one telephone directory listing created and transmitted

to the remote central station using a computing device not corresponding to a subscriber of the cellular telephone."

Examiner respectfully disagrees with the preceding argument.

Brown discloses a method and system comprising storing a user's contact information in a database that is accessible over a network, receiving identification of a person that the user wishes to authorize for access the user's contact information, and transmitting the user's contact information to a computing device of the authorized person from the database via the network in response to a request for this information (see abstract).

More specifically, Brown discloses a remote database 316 (see fig. 3) which allows individuals to store and update their contact information such that all authorized persons be able to obtain the most up-to-date information for the individual (see paragraph 32).

Further, Brown discloses a virtual address book of the module (database) with which the user can access another's information. Once the application is initiated, the user is prompted for some form of operation of user identification (e.g., through a log in process) to convey the user's authorization. Entry of such information facilitates **access to the contacts information of the persons identified in the user's virtual address book**. Once the identification is provided, it is received by the contacts information module and the module determines whether the identification is correct, as indicated in decision element 604 of fig. 6. If the identification is correct (i.e., the user is authenticated), the flow continues to block 606 at which the contacts information module receives the user's request to view the virtual address book, as indicated in block 606. More particularly, the module or database 314 can receive a request to view a particular folder of the address book. Once the request is received, the contacts information module presents the user with the requested information (see paragraphs 39-41).

As can be appreciated from the disclosure above, in step 604 (of fig. 6) the module receives the name of the accessing party and if it matches an authorized list, then the accessing party is authorized to access. In step 606, there is a request to view folder of address book. Now, if the authorized person is authorized to see multiple individual's folders, how does the authorized person makes a selection? In step 606 there is a request for the address folder. The system taught was not built to only permit one storing member and one corresponding accessing member. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art that an authorized accessing party, selecting between folders of different individuals, would have to do so by some form of identification.

It is clear that each contact or virtual book is associated with and identified by a person's name, which is the person who created the contact or virtual book (i.e., assigning a unique identification code to the contact or virtual book). To access the virtual book, the user has to first login by transmitting an identification code or password to the contact information module.

In arguendo, it should also be noted that in the language of claim 1, the assigned identification code is different from the transmitted identification code.

Regarding claim 2-11, 13-14 and 32 (bottom of page 11 and top of page 12 of the Brief), no specific argument were presented because of those claims dependence on claim 1. Therefore, the above reply also applies.

Appellants further argue (bottom of page 14 and page 15 of the Brief) that there is no disclosure or suggestion by Brown of storing a plurality of telephone directories each assigned an individual identification code, let alone, "wherein the at least two of the plurality of cellular telephones belong to a subset of cellular telephones and said at least

two of the plurality of cellular telephones each transmit a signal to said remote central station identifying themselves as belonging to said subset prior to said remote central station transferring the at least the identified portion of the telephone directory to the at least two of the plurality of cellular telephones."

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Brown discloses a remote database 316 (see fig. 3) which allows individuals to store and update their contact information such that all authorized persons be able to obtain the most up-to-date information for the individual (see paragraph 32). Therefore, Brown discloses storing a plurality of directories.

Further, as described above, Brown disclosed that entry of login information facilitates **access to the contacts information of the persons identified in the user's virtual address book**. Once the identification is provided, it is received by the contacts information module and the module determines whether the identification is correct, as indicated in decision element 604 of fig. 6. If the identification is correct (i.e., the user is authenticated), at which the contacts information module receives the user's request to view the virtual address book. More particularly, the module or database can receive a request to view a particular folder of the address book. Once the request is received, the contacts information module presents the user with the requested information (see paragraphs 39-41).

From the preceding, it is clear that each contact or virtual book is associated with and identified by a person's name, which is the person who created the contact or virtual book (i.e., assigning a unique identification code to the contact or virtual book). To access the virtual book, the user has to first login by transmitting an identification code or password to the contact information module.

Furthermore, regarding the argument that Brown not disclosing, "wherein the at least two of the plurality of cellular telephones belong to a subset of cellular telephones and said at least two of the plurality of cellular telephones each transmit a signal to said remote central station identifying themselves as belonging to said subset prior to said remote central station transferring the at least the identified portion of the telephone directory to the at least two of the plurality of cellular telephones," Brown discloses the process of adding a person to an approved list associated with a stored contact information. The person's identity can be added to an "approved" list associated with the stored contact information along with an identification of the particular information for which the person is approved such that, when the person later attempts to access the information, his or her identity will be cross-referenced with the approved list to confirm that the person has authorization as well as to determine the applicable level of the authorization (see paragraph 36). Also, the user has the ability to view a list of all persons that have access to the contact information (see paragraph 37).

Therefore, Brown discloses a plurality of persons (each using a mobile telephone (see paragraph 21)) belonging to list or a subset of persons (mobile telephone users) that are authorized to access contact information (i.e., telephone directory information). Persons or mobile telephone users belonging to the approved list or subset, to access the database, transmit a signal, from which their identity would be cross-referenced with the approved list to confirm that they have authorization to access the information before they can access the information (i.e., prior to the database transfers the information to the persons).

Also refer to paragraph 43-47 where it is disclosed that once having determined which members would like to participate, the administrator can create the virtual directory, as indicated in block 702. Optionally, the administrator can provide all the identities of the participating

members and their associated contact information to another entity, for instance the entity that maintains the one or more network servers 112. As before, these identities can simply comprise an identifier such as the member's email address or another identifier that is globally unique. The administrator, or other entity, can then configure the virtual directory such that only members of the group and, potentially only participating members, can access the directory (see paragraphs 42-46). Thus, members of the group can access other members' directories. And as stated above, to access the directory, the requesters have to provide identification information.

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

/PIERRE-LOUIS DESIR/

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